

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 82

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. No. 20 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE. Twenty eighth street and Broadway.—THE BIG BOSS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Fisher, Mr. Lewis, Miss Davenport, Mrs. Gilbert.

LYCEUM THEATRE. Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—MAY STUART AND LARRY KACZETH, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

PARK THEATRE. Broadway.—DAVID CROCKETT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Mayo.

GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE. No. 556 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE. Corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—HENRY V, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Egnold.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. Broadway, corner of Twenty-ninth street.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

TIVOLI THEATRE. Fifth street between Second and Third avenues.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway.—THE LITTLE THEATRE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Boucault.

COLOSSEUM. Broadway and Thirty-third street.—PARIS BY NIGHT. Two evenings daily, at 2 and 8 P. M.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. BIG BOSSANZA. Mrs. Sarah Jewett. Mr. Louis James.

DE GARMO HALL. CONCERT, at 8 P. M. Mr. F. Mollenhauer.

WOODS MUSEUM. Broadway, corner of Thirtieth street.—THE RAG, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. THE PASTOR BOY IN NEW YORK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE. No. 62 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL. Sixteenth street and Broadway.—CALLENDER'S GEORGIA MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE. No. 51 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART. West Fourth street.—Open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE. Fulton avenue.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE. West Twenty-third street, near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Dan Bryant.

GERMANIA THEATRE. Fourteenth street.—GIROFLO GIROFLO, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Miss Lisa May.

NIBLO'S. Broadway.—HERMANN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1875.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

Owing to the heavy pressure of advertisements on the columns of our Sunday editions, advertisers will serve their own interests and enable us to make a proper classification if they will hereafter send in advertisements intended for the Sunday Herald during the week and early on Saturdays.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be clear and cold.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock market was excited and active. Gold was firm at 116½, foreign exchange dull and money on call easy.

VENICE honors her heroes by statues. That of the patriot Manin was yesterday unveiled with appropriate ceremonies and amid universal rejoicing.

THE ENGLISH REVIVAL.—There must be something sincere or magnetic in Messrs. Moody and Sankey or the excitement of their revival movement would not be continued so long. The English clergymen have agreed to support it and to invite to England some of the leading American preachers.

THE VINELAND SHOOTING.—The latest news from Vineland, N. J., is that Mr. Carruth is still alive, and that the physicians attending him have little expectation of his recovery. In case of his improvement an effort is to be made to obtain the liberation of Mr. Landis on bail. The affair has already become the subject of partisan feeling, and the excitement in Vineland is intense.

MR. GREEN AND THE ALDERMEN.—The law committee of the Board of Aldermen yesterday resumed its investigation of the charges against Comptroller Green. General A. G. Webb testified that Mr. Green's conduct had impaired the credit of the College of New York, and Commissioner Howe reaffirmed the report he had already made to the Board. Appended to this testimony is a letter from Mr. John B. Haskin in reply to ex-Governor Dix.

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN KILLILA before the Board of Police Commissioners for receiving money improperly will largely command the attention of the public, which has too much reason to fear that police officers are frequently too intimate with violators of the law. The offense of which Captain Killila is accused is trifling when compared with the criminal leagues detectives are said to form with counterfeiters and thieves, but the case deserves a thorough and rigid investigation.

Governor Tilden's Canal Message—A Commemoration in State Politics.

The vigorous coup against the Canal Ring with which the Governor has enlivened the hitherto flat proceedings at Albany excites keen interest and forebodes a lively fight in which "somebody will be hurt." The press of both parties is full of it. We rejoice to see that through the whole length of the State, from Long Island to Lake Erie, the Governor is indorsed and applauded, though with varying degrees of warmth. The Canal Ring is struck with consternation, its leaders denouncing the Governor, imputing his motives and holding confidential consultations to concoct plans for thwarting him. The purpose of their visit to this city on Saturday was an alliance, offensive and defensive, with Mayor Wickham and the Tammany magnates on the joint basis of resisting the Governor's canal policy and of carrying the city measures which Tammany desires and the Governor obstructs. They should have seen, without the trouble of a journey and consultation, that such a bargain is impracticable. The fact that they attempted it indicates the stress of the situation and shows to what straits they are reduced by the explosion of Governor Tilden's bomb in their camp.

The members of the Canal Ring have short memories. They seem to have forgotten John Kelly's denunciation of the Canal Ring just before the meeting of the Democratic State Convention last fall. Mr. Tilden was Kelly's candidate, and the fierce anathemas which the Tammany chief launched against Mr. Tilden's opponents in Western New York, branding them as the allies of the corrupt Canal Ring, inflamed animosities and led to an angry struggle in the Syracuse Convention. The victory won by Tilden's friends in that struggle, the triumphant majority by which he was nominated and his surprising victory over General Dix in the election made it apparent that Tilden is a tough customer to quarrel with. Nobody was more impressed with this view than shrewd John Kelly. When he found that Tilden would have been elected without the democratic majority in this city Kelly saw that Tilden was independent of Tammany, and could afford to pursue any line of policy he might select without abjectly courting the city democracy. This was more than Tammany had bargained for. It wished to nominate Tilden and to elect him; but it expected the city vote to be the controlling element in the contest, and that the Governor would recognize his dependence on that branch of the party. When, for the first time in twenty years, a democratic Governor was elected by a majority so overwhelming that he might have dispensed with the city vote, Mr. Kelly saw, with prompt sagacity, that Tammany had no peculiar hold on the new Governor, who was emancipated from the influence of any local clique. Governor Tilden's confident reliance on his rural supporters is the key to the cavalier manner in which he has treated Mayor Wickham and the claims of the city democracy to home rule. But, although he has dissatisfied the home rulers, they dare not come to a rupture with him. When, therefore, the members of the Canal Ring came down to the city on Saturday to arrange a bargain with Mayor Wickham and Tammany for opposing the policy of the Governor, they met with no encouragement. The Tammany chiefs are too sensible that Governor Tilden has the whiphand, and that he "means business" in his onslaught against the Canal Ring. Had Tammany consented to enter into a coalition to oppose him the opposition would have been futile, because the republicans of the Legislature would have supported the Governor, in the hope of splitting the democratic party, and he would win an easy triumph in spite of a coalition between Tammany and the Canal Ring. Moreover, if Tammany had unwarily consented to such a bargain, it could have gained nothing; for, although home rule might have been carried through the Legislature, the exasperated Governor would veto it, and they would be no better off in the end. Tammany will therefore stand by the Governor in his attack on the Canal Ring, hoping to win from him by conciliation what they could not extort by an aggressive attitude. Mr. Kelly's infuriated assault on the Canal Ring in the autumn necessitates a support of the Governor in this exciting conjuncture, quite apart from motives of prudence and policy.

The charge of the Canal Ring that Governor Tilden has "Presidency on the brain," and that he has exploded this bomb to magnify his merits as a reformer and recommend himself as a Presidential candidate is plausible enough to secure attention. There is too much reason for believing it true to make contradiction safe. But what then? Many of our public men have had aspirations for the Presidency, and none of them has ever attempted to promote his chances by a more legitimate method than by insisting upon honesty in public administration. The proper question in this canal controversy is whether the stand taken by Governor Tilden is right. His measures, and not his motives, is the proper hinge of the controversy. No citizen binds himself to support Mr. Tilden for the Presidency by indorsing his canal message. The canal question is a question of State policy to be decided on its merits. If Mr. Tilden's views are correct and his damaging exposures true honest citizens should go with him, even though they may scout his Presidential aspirations. It is his duty as Governor to do what he can to eradicate frauds in the State administration, and of course his Presidential aspirations will be rather favored than thwarted by a zealous warfare against swindling rings and official corruption. We concede that, if Mr. Tilden has any chances for the national democratic nomination next year, they are founded, almost entirely, on his recent career as a reformer. His election as Governor was due to his vigor against the Tweed Ring in 1871, and it is natural enough that he should wish to lift himself to national favor by further efforts of the same kind. As a game for the Presidency it is managed with considerable skill; but it is the duty of honest citizens to lay Mr. Tilden's personal motives and ambition quite out of the case, and judge between him and the Canal Ring on the intrinsic merits of the controversy. He is so clearly right in this matter that he will carry popular sentiment with him, and the best card the republicans in the Legis-

ture can play is to give him their cordial support and claim their share in a policy which would otherwise inure to the advantage of a democratic aspirant to the Presidency. If the republicans of the Legislature are shrewd enough to support the Governor against a corrupt democratic ring the honors will be divided, and the personal and party capital at which Mr. Tilden is supposed to aim be of small account.

Governor Tilden is astute and artful, and among the other objects he has in view in precipitating this canal controversy he wishes to withdraw attention from city affairs by concentrating it on a more exciting question. The ways of politicians are crooked, and if the Governor, now that he has discharged his bomb into the camp of the Canal Ring, does not immediately act on Mayor Wickham's removals, this community will regard him as a dexterous political dodger who does nothing and abstains from nothing except with reference to his Presidential chances. The people will support him in his assault on the Canal Ring because it is just; but, if they are constrained to believe that his motive is personal and selfish, they will prefer a different style of man for President. It will not do for Mr. Tilden to make his assault on the Canal Ring an excuse for shirking his duty to support the honest efforts of the Mayor to reform our municipal government.

Andrew Johnson's Speech.

The speech of Andrew Johnson in the Senate yesterday will make a profound impression on the country, by reason of its energy, earnestness and courage. The Louisiana question becomes but an incident in his sweeping arraignment of the administration. He passes at once from a brief consideration of the law and the facts to a bold denunciation of the President and a passionate appeal to the people. Virtually the address is an impeachment of General Grant.

It was unnecessary in Mr. Johnson to compare Grant with Washington in order to make his argument more effective by the contrast. The American people do not approve of cruelty that can serve no good end. If we were to institute comparisons of the kind how few public reputations would be secured! Mr. Johnson himself would not be benefited by such a parallel. To insist upon judging General Grant by Washington is to be unjust, for there is no resemblance in their characters, and outside of the office-holders no one pretends to the contrary. Postmasters and revenue officers may speak of Grant as the Second Washington; but their eulogy does not deserve Mr. Johnson's attention. This portion of his speech is, therefore, uncalled for, and the concealed malice is not to be justified even by the heat of political passion.

The nature of Mr. Johnson's mind is practical. He cannot argue in abstractions, and thus rapidly passes from the theoretical merits of the Louisiana question to what he considers to be the political and personal object of the administration. When he sees military tyranny in the place of civil law he seeks at once for the motive of the usurpation. He finds it, where alone it can be logically found, in the President's desire of a third term, and the danger to republican institutions in that innovation seems to him, as to all thoughtful men, the greatest of our national evils. The President, he argues, is already in certain portions of the country as absolute as an Emperor, and if the precedents of his rule in the South are permitted to stand the Empire itself will soon be upon us. Mr. Johnson believes that the administration is trying to overthrow the government, and we are sorry to say that he has plausible reasons for the opinion. There are acts of the President that cannot be explained upon any other theory than that of a scheme to hold the Executive power for another term, and that means the end of the Republic our forefathers founded.

Mr. Johnson's speech will probably be condemned for its impolicy, but policy is not to be expected from a nature so blunt and courageous. With too much passion for the time and perhaps too much exaggeration, he has honestly uttered unwelcome truths and warned the nation of dangers it will be wise to heed.

The Speculation in Gold.

The ring which has been manipulating the gold market for the last two or three weeks has not yet been broken. The price of gold yesterday did not advance, but it did not recede, and until new supplies come into the market there is little chance of much reduction. The importing merchants, who cannot afford to lose the spring trade which is now opening, must have gold for the payment of duties; but the state of the gold market for the last two or three days may encourage them to believe that its price has reached as high a point as it will attain. The gold clique dare not carry it higher, and they will not consent to have it lower until they can unload, unless a new supply disconcerts their calculations. A small amount is on the way from California, but it is insufficient to have any perceptible effect on the market. The situation hinges on the presentation of the called bonds at the Treasury for payment. They have not yet begun to come in, and as the interest on them is greater than the interest of money in the street, it is quite possible that the owners may prefer to retain them until the interest is stopped by the expiration of the three months, when the whole thirty millions would be poured into the market at a season when importations are at a stand. But if the speculators should be unwary enough to run up the price of gold much beyond its present figure, the holders of the called bonds could make more by getting their gold at once and selling it than by allowing their bonds to run on until the expiration of the three months. This is a pretty good security that gold will not go much higher. It will, therefore, be safe for the importing merchants to buy no more than they need from day to day for paying the duties on such goods as they wish to bring immediately into the market. They have a pretty sure guarantee that the price cannot materially advance, and from the moment that any considerable amount of the called bonds are presented for payment it is certain to decline.

THE TWEED CASE has reached the Court of Appeals, and the argument of his counsel was begun yesterday in support of his extraordinary demands.

Civil Service in Tammany Hall.

The announcement that seems to be accepted as official, that the Fitz Porters and the Fitz Kellys have come to an agreement by which it is arranged that all the offices under the control of the Commissioner of Public Works shall be fairly divided among the "honest workmen" of the party, is most important. The situation is this:—The Manhattan Club and the Fitz Porters who belong to it, representing the kid-gloved, perfumed, high society element of the party, have made General Porter Commissioner of Public Works, and before they are through will probably appoint the heads of every municipal department. The rank and file of the democracy are to be satisfied by receiving all the appointments under these departments. They are to work and dig, to labor in Central Park and the Fourth avenue improvement, and to earn from a dollar and a half to five dollars a day for their pure democracy. The Fitz Porters are to be paid various sums, from five thousand dollars to fifty thousand dollars a year for their services, and the Fitz Kellys are to be paid anywhere from five hundred to five thousand dollars. The power rests with the Fitz Porters of the Manhattan Club. By power we mean easy work, honorable position and high salary. The "patronage" rests with the rank and file—the Fitz Kellys—which means hard work and steady going when the day comes.

Of course, if the Tammany boys are satisfied with this arrangement, it is no business of ours. But there is one point which we regret to say has escaped their attention. When this party came into power in New York it made certain promises that it would reform the government, give us a sound municipal system, do away with all the corruptions of the old Tammany Ring, and, above all things, establish a civil service in the city. Without curiously considering how far these promises have been realized let us ask whether the Tammany Ring ever did anything more corrupt than this bargaining and sale of the public offices of New York to the leaders of a political organization? Let us ask, also, where are those reforms which were to be introduced in the government of the city? If this city is to be governed as a merchant conducts his business—by prudence, economy, justice; if officials are to be appointed only for merit, and to be kept in place and promoted according to their deservings, how can we have such an arrangement as is now proposed between General Porter and Tammany Hall, by which a committee of noisy and scheming politicians have the entire power to remove every officer in a great department? What has John Morrissey done, either in the politics, the business circles or the society of New York, that he should have the power to name the officials who are to manage the Department of Public Works? Who has given John Kelly the attributes of authority to enable him to say whether two or three thousand men shall remain in their places? Are we to understand that the power of Morrissey and Kelly is the logical result of the last election? Are we to believe that this civil service reform was simply an election cry, and that this is to be the fruit of it—this bargaining and sale between the city government and Tammany Hall; this changing of the whole system of city government, not upon the principles of fitness and merit, but in obedience to a committee of eager, bustling politicians?

We are so democratic in New York that we can probably stand this. If we look back upon the dynasties of the Tammany reign we are probably doing as well now as we have ever done before. But how can the democratic party expect power in other States, how can it claim to carry the next election to the Presidency, if here in New York, where it is strong, it signifies its first accession to power by trampling under foot every promise made by its leaders and embarking upon the old sea of nepotism, corruption and political intrigue?

Garibaldi and the Improvements at Rome.

Garibaldi's projects for the redemption of the country in the neighborhood of Rome are so far favored by the government that it will undoubtedly give its support in the Parliament to any bill for raising the necessary funds; but no close approximation of the expenditure can yet be reached by estimate, because of the fact that no definite plan of operations has been settled. In fact, the project is yet rather in the drifting stage—professedly subject to any modification that may be supported by cogent reasons.

As we pointed out two or three days since, there are two objects in view—first, the prevention in the city of the ever-recurring calamity of inundation; next, the drainage of the malarious district of the Campagna. Two distinctly separate systems of improvement are proposed to remedy these separate evils. Against the evils of the Campagna it is proposed to cut a canal some twenty-five or thirty miles long, from Tivoli on the Anio far above Rome to the Tiber, near Ostia. This cut will not at any point come anywhere near the city, and it will have no relation to the inundations except in so far as it may divert the water of the Anio, which otherwise would, of course, somewhat swell the waters of the Tiber. It will run like the base line of a triangle, of which the Anio and the Tiber are the two sides, and consequently will skirt for some distance the foot of the Alban hills. In times when the plain would be overflowed this cut will carry the waters away, while in seasons when the burning sun turns the plain to the semblance of a place wasted by fire, it may, with proper crosscuts, serve for irrigation and so make agriculture possible; and it is tolerably clear that it is in agriculture more than in drainage that we shall find the true solution of the problem of the Roman Campagna.

To prevent the inundations the project is to make a cut, or perhaps two cuts, skirting the city, starting that is, at the Tiber some ways above, making the half circuit and ending at the Tiber several miles below. There is a double curve in the river of which advantage may be taken for these cuts; so that whether one be made to the east or west of the river they will be practically rectifications of its course, and will be but slightly curved lines. One cut of this sort, of proper dimensions, would doubtless divert the water sufficiently, and two would surely do it.

In connection with the project for these cuts goes that for the improvement of the

river in the city, the reduction of its bed to half the present width and the construction in the space thus gained of an embankment with a promenade like the Quai at Paris, the Lungo l'Arno at Florence and the Victoria Embankment of London. It is a pleasant thing to have to chronicle of the City of the Soul such evidences of restored vitality as these projects imply.

The Astronomers' Problem.

Notwithstanding the praiseworthy efforts of the American observers in Japan to carry out the instructions of the Transit Commission, the brilliancy of their success was cruelly dimmed by cloud-masses which caught the rays of victory beamed from the east during the decisive moments of the first and the last contact. The photographs taken there, like all the others, must fail to yield perfect results, though they may evoke investigation and inventions of a crowning character for the observance of the transit eight years hence. The small number of cusp measurements made prior to the second contact will not enable the calculators to determine the epoch of first contact by the laws of proportion. But inasmuch as the possibility of error in the notation of the second and the third contact is limited to a few seconds, and the English have chronicled the closing contacts in Africa, we are hopeful of a solution of the main problem by Delisle's method closely approximating the truth. The micrometric measures of Venus' apparent diameter and the records of the transits of the limbs of both bodies across the meridian furnish the key to a correction of the planet's diameter and the longitude of its node. But in the determination of the former attention must be paid to a fact that has been ignored by some of the star gazers—the height and density of Venus' atmosphere. Before the expeditions left this country their attention was asked, through these columns, to this important circumstance, and the propriety of that suggestion is amply shown by the occurrences incident to the transit. The refraction of the planet's light has unquestionably operated to accelerate the epochs of the first and the third contact and to retard the second and the fourth. This, together with errors of position, would account for the discrepancy between the estimated and the observed periods of apparent collision between the bodies as viewed by the astronomers in Japan. The conclusions to which the reports thus far received seem likely to lead may be modified by the work of the scientists yet unheard from. But from what may be surmised, we venture to think that the noble achievements of 1874 will merely prove preparatory to those which are destined to crown the astronomical progress of this century, when the silver orb will repeat her journey over the solar globe, scanned by thousands of admirers from the Atlantic to the Pacific shore.

The Fifth Avenue Pavement Bill and the Assembly Investigation.

The action of the State Assembly in relation to the Fifth Avenue Pavement bill investigation will not improve the reputation of that body. After the bill in question had been reported favorably by the Committee on Cities and placed on the files of the members in its regular order, to be considered at the proper time in Committee of the Whole House, it was removed and destroyed, and an altered and fraudulent bill was put in its place. This substituted bill bore upon its face all the marks of genuineness. It was printed by the legislative printers, in the regular form and with the regular type; it bore upon it the number, marks and references of the original bill, and a forged indorsement of the favorable report and recommendation of the standing committee by which it had been considered. The alteration from the true bill consisted of the insertion of three lines, which, if the forgery had not been detected and the bill had become a law, would have added two hundred and sixty thousand dollars to the cost of the work authorized by the bill, and hence to the profits of the parties interested therein. The legislative printer admitted that he had printed the fraudulent bill, with all the genuine marks and notes upon it, for an outside and unauthorized person. The best defence that could be offered by the Clerk of the Assembly, who is responsible for the filing of the bills, was that he had made some indorsement on one of the fraudulent bills, which indorsement had been mutilated and made to read like an order to place the bill on the files. The Sergeant-at-Arms and others in authority disclaimed all knowledge of the matter. The act of the substitution of the altered for the genuine bill must be placed on some one's shoulders, and was attributed to a youth who had no position in the Legislature and no authority to touch any file or any document belonging to the Assembly. Yet this youth, who is said to have been in the employment of the promoters of the bill, was not subpoenaed or examined by the Committee of Investigation.

In the face of these facts the majority of the committee reported that while "irregular and improper means" had been used to get the fraudulent bill placed on the files there was nothing whatever to show that such action was induced by improper motives, or was known to the officers of the House or the persons interested in the bill. A large majority of the Assembly accepted and indorsed this scandalous report. If "irregular and improper means" were used to place a false bill on the files of the members certainly some blame for inefficiency or wilful neglect of duty must attach to the Clerk of the House, the Sergeant-at-Arms and their assistants. If, as is alleged, the boy Walters succeeded in making the change by his own act or through his own instructions, all the regular officers of the House must have been culpably remiss or incapable. How can the committee and the House fail to find "improper motives" for a fraudulent alteration of a bill by means of which over a quarter of a million dollars would be put into the pockets of the persons interested in its provisions? How can they acquit these persons of any knowledge of the attempted fraud when they declare that a boy in their employ was the guilty party, and especially when the boy in question has not been made to testify before the committee? How can they find no officials to blame when the legislative printer printed the altered bill, giving it all the marks of genuineness, and thus admittedly aided the imposition? We leave the Assembly to

answer these questions, only expressing our surprise that Mr. Frederick W. Seward should be found uniting in such a report. As to the bill itself, it can scarcely be aided by this scandalous episode. Its passage would be unjust to the residents of Fifth avenue and to the taxpayers generally under any circumstances. The attempted fraud only adds an additional reason for its defeat.

Musical Prospects.

The season of Lent has been a penitential one in a musical as well as religious point of view. Easter brings with it hope and flattering promises. The Kellogg English Opera Company finish their winter season at the Academy next week, and will be succeeded by Mr. Maretzok with an Italian opera company, mainly composed of native artists. An experiment will be made in this latter case to popularize Italian opera and to take away from it the "spirit of exclusiveness and high pricedness" so long attached to it. Among the artists who will appear for the first time on the boards of the Academy in Italian opera are Miss Hoffman, of Chicago; Miss Rokohl, of New York; Miss Morelle, of Savannah; Miss Randall, of Washington, and Miss Sorel, of Louisiana. The enterprise is national enough, to judge from this list. Some of the male artists of the late Strakosch troupe have been engaged. The *repertoire* consists of Flotow's "L'Ombre," which will be presented for the first time in this city; "Martha," "Trovatore" and "Ernani," works calculated to test to the fullest the capabilities of those aspirants for operatic honors. It is an experiment worth trying, and if successful will do much to advance and encourage native talent. Mr. Theodore Thomas will inaugurate his season of summer concerts in May, after his return from the grand musical festival which is to be held in Cincinnati. Gilmore and his military band will also entertain the metropolis during the dog days with promenade concerts. The Oratorio Society, which has acquired such fame and popularity this season, will produce "Samson" at Steinway Hall on Easter Monday. This is a favorable outlook, and will go far toward supplying the aching void left by the collapse of some of those musical enterprises inaugurated last fall.

THE COLD WEATHER of yesterday maintained the ice blockade in the rivers, and postponed the impending danger. The water fell slowly at Port Deposit, but the flood is still locked up in the gorges, and warmer weather will probably bring disaster with its blessing.

THE USEFULNESS of St. John's Guild is so great and its needs so urgent that we hope the efforts now being made to replenish its treasury will be earnestly supported by the public.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Congressman Eugene Hale, of Maine, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Captain W. H. Hains, of the steamship Abyssinia, is quartered at the New York Hotel.

Mr. William Castle, the tenor, is among the latest arrivals at the Everett House.

Senator Joseph E. McDonald, of Indiana, is residing temporarily at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Congressman John O. Whitehouse, of Poughkeepsie, is registered at the Albemarle Hotel.

Mr. D. W. Gooch, United States Pension Agent for Massachusetts, is sojourning at the Brevoort House.

One of the papers very honestly heads its very tart report of the transit of Venus, "Full particulars at last."

Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson arrived in this city yesterday from his home in Concord, Mass., and is at the St. Denis Hotel.

Postmaster General Marshall Jewell arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday morning, and left last evening for Washington.

The *Foce della Verita* states that Count de Chambord has sent to the Pope, through the Princess Francesca Massini, a sum of 10,000 francs in gold, with a letter.

A Savor paper says that the watershed at the tunnel having been adopted as the Franco-Italian boundary on Mont Cenis Italy will have to cede to France about 450 metres of ground.

Two young gentlemen at the Jena University were killed in duels just before Christmas, and now the law is no more duels; but the fellows who do not fear the sword will scarcely fear the law.

Mr. Whitelaw Reid, editor of the *Tribune*, was indicted by the Grand Jury of the District of Columbia, yesterday, for the alleged libeling of ex-Governor Shepley, who also bears the graceful sobriquet of "The Boss."

"Le roi s'ennuie." Alfonso is shockingly bored with the part he is compelled to play as a mere political puppet in the metropolitan village of Madrid, and has neither the capacity nor the spirit to cut the wires and dance to a tune of his own choosing.

English lawyers are disputing finely over the puzzle in the legal aspects of the case of John Mitchell. The general judgment has been that by his escape he made himself a felon for life. His sentence gave him the status of a felon, and the law knows of no way to change that status save by endurance of the sentence and pardon.

Lord St. Leonards taught that it was the sacred duty of every man to make his will, and he wrote a book to show how it should be done. He made his own will with the sound of trumpets, as it were, and now that will cannot be found—lost, apparently, in the wilderness of his papers, or, as conjectured, perhaps buried with him—or he kept it sometimes in the pocket of his dressing gown.

The Augsburg *Allgemeine Zeitung* gives an extract from the Leipzig "Booksellers' Report," from which it appears that the number of works printed in Germany was the largest on record since 1848, and amounted to 12,000, including reprints and maps of all kinds. Theology, which has hitherto stood at the head of the list, fell in 1874 to the third place, jurisprudence and education taking precedence.

Mr. Francis Pierre Connelly, an American painter in Florence, has instituted proceedings against some of the local journals for having stated that he and some other American artists have been in the habit of employing native artists in needy circumstances to produce works when they have forwarded to the United States as their own veritable productions, and thus have found a name and a market for themselves.

Here is a foreteller who applies in the grocery line one of the great ideas employed in politics by His Excellency the President. He sends around circulars with descriptions of his prime teas, and asks, "Will you do me the honor to order a tea?" He considers it an order and will send you a pound of the best by the 20th inst., and draw on you for the money." Grant says the same to Congress. "I propose to put my foot on such a Southern State; if you don't make a law to the contrary I shall consider it your consent."

Isabelle, the flower girl of the Paris Jockey Club, has just been sued by her mother to obtain an alimentary allowance. The plaintiff, a poor peasant woman and widow, named Briant, is quite destitute and infirm, while Isabelle is in affluent circumstances, her income being estimated at 16,000 francs a year. She lives in a handsome apartment in Paris and has two houses at Saunoy. The Tribunal gave judgment against her, and fixed the allowance at 600 francs a year.

They sold at the public auction in Paris the other day a revolver that has had many owners, and with which five of its owners had committed suicide.